

May 2025

Healthy School Lunch Program 2026

Expression of Interest – copy of questions

School Food Matters has received funding from the Tasmanian Government to continue to expand the Healthy School Lunch Program and will increase the number of participating schools from 45 to 60 in 2026.

Expressions of Interest (EOI) are now open to Tasmanian Government primary schools (including primary years in District Schools) to select a further 15 schools to join the Program in 2026.

Applications must be completed using the [Online EOI Application Form](#), which will be open from 21 May to 13 June 2025.

The Online EOI Application Form requires some documents to be uploaded and for schools to have pre-gathered some information regarding equipment and facilities, we suggest using this as a guide before starting on the online form.

For more information about the Healthy School Lunch Program for 2026, such as [Frequently Asked Questions](#) and registration for one of our online information sessions visit the [School Lunch Program](#) intranet page.

Schools will be notified of the outcome in Term 3.

For information on the Program may work in your school's specific context, please contact Kate Carlin, Healthy School Lunch Program Manager, School Food Matters info@schoolfoodmatters.org.au or call 6223 8023.

1. **School Name:**
2. **Approximately how many students are in your school?**
3. **School Contact Name, email and phone**

Mandatory Requirements

4. **Are you a Tasmanian Government School with students in Kinder to Year 6?**
 - Yes
 - No

5. Does your school have a current School Food Matters membership:

- Yes
- No

6. Is your school canteen accredited under the School Food Matters SmartFood Program or working towards it?

- Bronze
- Silver
- Gold
- Platinum
- Working towards accreditation
- No

7. Is your school willing to participate in an evaluation of the program? This may involve daily dish counts, term visits, details on waste amounts, etc.

- Yes
- No

8. Is your school willing to release the Kitchen Supervisor member for professional development and workshops (once a term)

- Yes
- No

9. Endorsement of the school Principal to participate in the School Lunch Program.

Please upload email / letter confirming endorsement of the school Principal to participate in the School Lunch Program. Please outline why it is important for your school to be involved in this initiative. For example, the benefits of being involved in the Healthy School Lunch program, including relevant information about the school community.

Suggested word count 200 - 300

Desirable Requirements

10. Does your school currently offer a lunch program? For example, canteen, occasional lunches provided for some children, food focused lessons, special occasion lunch events.

- Yes
- Tried
- No

11. If yes or tried, please describe the school's lunch program, including the number of days the program is offered and the number of students accessing the program per week, or why you have been unable to establish a canteen/lunch program.

12. Does your school have an existing School Food Plan?

For information on School Food Plans refer to the School Food Matters website under the tab 'School Food Service' or visit the DECYP website.

- Yes
- No

13. If your school has a current School Food Plan, please upload a copy of the plan.

14. If your school does not currently have a School Food Plan, are you prepared to develop one with SFM support? Ideally to be completed during the first year of joining the HSLP

- Yes
- No

15. Does your school have a Breakfast Club?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please provide a brief summary.

16. Does your school have a Kitchen Garden Program?

For example, school designed garden, Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program, 24 Carrot, School Farm etc.

- Yes
- No

If yes, please provide a brief summary.

17. Is your school a member of Move Well Eat Well?

- Yes
- No

18. Can you see the School Lunch Program being linked to the Curriculum in your school?
Provide details on the different ways it could be incorporated at your school.

School Readiness

19. A strong school leadership team is required to facilitate and ensure the success of the Healthy School Lunch Program. Who would be on this leadership team in your school?

20. How many days per week is your school seeking to provide lunches?

- 1 day per week
- 2 days per week
- 1 day per week initially, then expand to 2 days per week over the course of 2026

- Other

Please outline the reason/s why your school is seeking to provide lunches for this number of days per week, or if other what would this be.

21. Which year groups would you like to participate in the program?

- All years
- Kinder
- Prep
- Year 1
- Year 2
- Year 3
- Year 4
- Year 5
- Year 6

Please outline the reason/s why your school is seeking to provide lunches for these year groups.

22. Approximately how many students would be provided lunch at your school per day? If your school is shortlisted this quantity will be used as a guide only, following a visit from SFM this may be adjusted to a more suitable number.

23. Which of the following options do you anticipate working at your schools?

- A - Ingredients for cooking the meals at your school

OR

- B - Receive ready prepared food from a central kitchen, with minimal food preparation required, but includes reheating and making the side dish.

24. Where are you planning to serve the school lunch to your students?

For example, designated area, classroom.

25. Briefly outline any existing kitchen/canteen facilities in your school, including information on any commercial cookery equipment that you have.

Supporting Information

26. Do you have a staff member with the necessary food industry/or equivalent background that may be the Kitchen supervisor for the program?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please provide details of relevant qualifications and/or experience in the food industry. (E.g. Food Safety supervisor qualification, cookery qualification)

27. Have you engaged your school community on the potential delivery of the School Lunch Program in your schools? If yes, which groups and what was their response?

For example, School Association, parents/carers, student representative body.

- Yes
- No

28. Does your school receive any relevant funding or in-kind support that could support your school in the delivery of the lunch program?

For example, government grants, or volunteer support, funded projects

- Yes – how could you see this working with the lunch program
- No

Additional Information

- *If a school is shortlisted a SFM project officer will visit the school to gather additional information regarding infrastructure and existing equipment.*
- *For successful schools, SFM recommends developing a leadership group to drive the program. This may include your identified staff member, e.g. School Canteen Manager, Teacher's Assistant/s, senior staff, classroom teachers and staff members that have a food industry/or equivalent background.*
- *SFM will provide successful schools with an introductory video on the HSL program to show as part of a staff meeting, prior to commencement. Where possible a member of School Food Matters will be in attendance to answer any questions.*
- *SFM can also support successful schools to employ a kitchen supervisor if required.*